

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method comprising:
2 displaying information in a display window of a computing device; and
3 indicating whether the information is scrollable by activating a human perceivable
4 stimulus.

1 2. The method recited in claim 1 wherein, in indicating, the human perceivable
2 stimulus is from the group comprising a light, a sound, and a physical movement.

1 3. The method recited in claim 1 wherein, in indicating, the human perceivable
2 stimulus is from the group comprising activation of a light, a change in light intensity, a
3 change in light color, a change in light location, a change in a light blinking pattern, activation
4 of a legend, a change in a legend, activation of a sound, a change in a sound, activation of a
5 physical movement, and a change in a physical movement.

1 4. The method recited in claim 1 wherein, in indicating, the human perceivable
2 stimulus comprises a light emanating from a light source, the light source being turned on if
3 the information is scrollable, and the light source being otherwise off.

1 5. The method recited in claim 1 wherein, in indicating, the human perceivable
2 stimulus comprises a light emanating from a light source proximate to a scroll control
3 element, the light source being turned on if the information is scrollable, and the light source
4 being otherwise off.

1 6. The method recited in claim 1 wherein, in indicating, the human perceivable
2 stimulus comprises a light emanating from a first light source proximate to a horizontal scroll

3 control element, the first light source being turned on if the information is horizontally
4 scrollable, and the first light source being otherwise off, and wherein the human perceivable
5 stimulus further comprises a light emanating from a second light source proximate to a
6 vertical scroll control element, the second light source being turned on if the information is
7 vertically scrollable, and the second light source being otherwise off.

1 7. The method recited in claim 6 wherein, in indicating, the first light source, the
2 second light source, the horizontal scroll control wheel, and the vertical scroll control wheel
3 are elements of a pointing device.

1 8. A method comprising:
2 displaying information in a plurality of display windows of a computing device;
3 detecting a control signal from a user interface element from the group comprising a
4 cursor position, a pointing device, a key, a button, a touch-sensitive screen, or a combination
5 thereof, the control signal representing the selection of a specific display window; and
6 indicating whether the information in the specific display window is scrollable by
7 activating a human perceivable stimulus.

1 9. The method recited in claim 8 wherein, in indicating, the human perceivable
2 stimulus is from the group comprising a light, a sound, and a movement.

1 10. The method recited in claim 8 wherein, in indicating, the human perceivable
2 stimulus comprises a light emanating from a light source, the light source being turned on if
3 the information is scrollable, and the light source being otherwise off.

1 11. The method recited in claim 8 wherein, in indicating, the human perceivable
2 stimulus comprises a light emanating from a light source proximate to a scroll control
3 element, the light source being turned on if the information is scrollable, and the light source
4 being otherwise off.

1 12. The method recited in claim 8 wherein, in indicating, the human perceivable
2 stimulus comprises a light emanating from a first light source proximate to a horizontal scroll
3 control wheel, the first light source being turned on if the information is horizontally
4 scrollable, and the first light source being otherwise off, and wherein the human perceivable
5 stimulus further comprises a light emanating from a second light source proximate to a
6 vertical scroll control wheel, the second light source being turned on if the information is
7 vertically scrollable, and the second light source being otherwise off.

1 13. The method recited in claim 12 wherein, in indicating, the first light source, the
2 second light source, the horizontal scroll control wheel, and the vertical scroll control wheel
3 are elements of a pointing device.

1 14. A computing device including a memory to store information and a computer
2 program, and a user interface including a display, the computing device executing the
3 computer program comprising the operations of:
4 displaying information in a window of the display; and
5 indicating whether the information is scrollable by activating a human perceivable
6 stimulus.

1 15. The computing device recited in claim 14 wherein, in indicating, the computer
2 program comprises the operation of turning on a light if the information is scrollable, and
3 otherwise not turning on the light.

1 16. The computing device recited in claim 14 and further including a scroll control
2 element and a light proximate to the scroll control element and wherein, in indicating, the
3 computer program comprises the operation of turning on the light if the information is
4 scrollable, and otherwise not turning on the light.

1 17. The computing device recited in claim 14 wherein the computing device
2 comprises a horizontal scroll control element and a vertical scroll control element, and

3 wherein, in indicating, the computer program comprises the operation of turning on a first
4 light proximate to the horizontal scroll control element if the information is horizontally
5 scrollable, and wherein the computer program further comprises the operation of turning on a
6 second light proximate to the vertical scroll control element if the information is vertically
7 scrollable.

1 18. The computing device recited in claim 14 wherein the computer program
2 further comprises the operation of determining that a user of the computing device is focusing
3 on a specific display window, and wherein, in indicating, the computer program comprises the
4 operation of turning on a light if the information in the specific display window is scrollable,
5 and otherwise not turning on the light.

1 19. The computing device recited in claim 18 wherein, in indicating, the computer
2 program comprises the operation of turning on the light proximate to a scroll control element
3 if the information in the specific display window is scrollable, and otherwise not turning on
4 the light.

1 20. The computing device recited in claim 18 wherein, in determining, the
2 computer program comprises the operation of detecting a control signal from a user interface
3 element from the group comprising a cursor position, a pointing device, a key, a button, a
4 touch-sensitive screen, or a combination thereof.

1 21. A computer network including a computing device having a user interface
2 including a display, and a remote computing device, the computer network executing a
3 computer program residing on the remote computing device comprising the operations of:
4 displaying information in a display window of the computing device; and
5 indicating whether the information is scrollable by activating a human perceivable
6 stimulus.

1 22. The computer network recited in claim 21 wherein, in indicating, the computer
2 program comprises the operation of turning on a light if the information is scrollable, and
3 otherwise not turning on the light.

1 23. The computer network recited in claim 21 wherein the computing device
2 further comprises a scroll control element, and wherein, in indicating, the computer program
3 comprises the operation of turning on a light proximate to the scroll control element if the
4 information is scrollable, and otherwise not turning on the light.

1 24. The computer network recited in claim 21 wherein the computing device
2 comprises a horizontal scroll control element and a vertical scroll control element, and
3 wherein, in indicating, the computer program comprises the operation of turning on a first
4 light proximate to the horizontal scroll control element if the information is horizontally
5 scrollable, and wherein the computer program further comprises the operation of turning on a
6 second light proximate to the vertical scroll control element if the information is vertically
7 scrollable.

1 25. An article comprising a machine-accessible medium having associated
2 instructions, wherein the instructions, when accessed, result in a machine performing:
3 displaying information in a display window of a computing device; and
4 indicating whether the information is scrollable by activating a human perceivable
5 stimulus.

1 26. The article recited in claim 25 wherein the computing device comprises a light,
2 and wherein the instructions, when accessed by the machine, result in the machine performing
3 the operation of turning on the light if the information is scrollable, and otherwise not turning
4 on the light.

1 27. The article recited in claim 25 wherein the computing device further comprises
2 a scroll control element and a light proximate to the scroll control element, and wherein the

3 instructions, when accessed by the machine, result in the machine performing the operation of
4 turning on the if the information is scrollable, and otherwise not turning on the light.

1 28. The article recited in claim 25 wherein the computing device comprises a
2 horizontal scroll control element, a first light proximate to the horizontal scroll control
3 element, a vertical scroll control element, and a second light proximate to the vertical scroll
4 control element, and wherein, in indicating, the computer program comprises the operation of
5 turning on the first light if the information is horizontally scrollable, and wherein the
6 computer program further comprises the operation of turning on the second light if the
7 information is vertically scrollable.